

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph at page 3, line 24 to page 4, line 12 with the following paragraph:

Copending U.S. Serial No. 08/_____ (~~attorney docket number 3924~~) 09/067,831, now U.S. Patent No. 5,953,832 discloses that after coating, the substrate or monolithic honeycomb can be rapidly and thoroughly dried without adversely affecting the coating profile. In particular, the disclosed method dries a monolithic substrate having a plurality of channels and a coating media thereon by removing the coated monolithic substrate from a bath containing the coating media while the coating media is in a wet condition. A vacuum is applied to the coated monolith substrate at an intensity in time sufficient to draw vapor out of the channels without substantially changing the coating profile within the channels. In a specific and preferred embodiment, the vacuum is imposed at one end of the substrate while gas at an elevated temperature is introduced into the opposite end of the substrate to facilitate drying.

Replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 19-23 with the following paragraph:

Figure 5 illustrates an embodiment wherein the first zone 20 comprises a catalytic layer 38 which extends into zone 24 as a catalytic outer layer 38 double prime. Likewise, the second zone 22 at the outlet has a catalytic 40 which extends into third zone 24 as catalytic inner layer 40 double prime.

Replace the paragraph at page 16, line 30 to page 17, line 2 with the following paragraph:

Figures 7 and 8 illustrate gradient embodiments. First zone 20 at the inlet end 14 contains three layers, inner layer 46, middle layer 48 and outer layer 50. Inner layer 46 extends for the complete length of zones 20, 22 and 24. In second zone 22 at the outlet end layer 46 prime is the only layer. In the third zone 24 there are two layers; inner layer 46 double prime and outer layer 48 ~~double~~-prime which is an extension of middle layer 48 from the first zone 20. In an alternative embodiment first zone 20 contains three layers; 52, 54 and 56. Inner layer 52 extends only through first zone 20. Middle layer 54 extends into third zone 24 as inner layer 54 double prime. Outer layer 56 of zone 20 extends into third zone 24 as outer layer 56 double prime and into second zone 22 as single layer 56 single prime.

Replace the paragraph at page 18, line 23 to page 19, line 10 with the following paragraph:

In Step A, honeycombs 10 are continuously fed into an apparatus for coating. The honeycomb 10 is retained by a suitable retaining means such as clamp 60. The honeycomb 10 may be weighed before coating or otherwise prepared. The honeycomb proceeds from Step A to Step B. In Step B honeycomb 10 is immersed in a vessel such a dip pan 62 having a region in the form of a reservoir 64 containing a coating media 66. A suitable means is used to apply a vacuum to the top or outlet end 14' of honeycomb 10. Preferably, hood 68 is sealingly applied to the top or outlet end 14' of honeycomb 10 and a vacuum is applied by a suitable vacuum means, such as a vacuum pump (not shown) through conduit 69 to the top end 14' of the honeycomb 10 to create a pressure drop and thereby draw the coating media 66 from the reservoir 64 into the bottom or inlet end 14 of the honeycomb 10 so as to coat the channels 16 at least over a portion of their length. This coating is conducted in the manner disclosed in copending Patent Application Serial No. 09/067,831, now U.S. Patent No. 5,953,832 ~~08/~~ ~~(attorney docket number 3924)~~ entitled, "METHOD FOR DRYING A COATED SUBSTRATE", which is incorporated herein by reference. When the coating is

to be applied for only part of the channel length, there can be a limited amount of fluid (coating media) in the reservoir. When the fluid is all removed it coats a predetermined length and air is sucked into the channel. The front edge of the fluid which had filled the channels breaks and there is an open path from the inlet to the outlet. The composition forms a coating length on the wall up to the predetermined length. In Step B, the vacuum applied can be from 5 to 15 and typically 5 to 10 inches of water. The coating step takes place from 1 to 10 seconds and preferably 2 to 4 seconds.